

AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY

EST. JANUARY 1987



72 COMPLETED SESSIONS
1,850 GRADUATES

(As of September 2010)

“UNDERSTANDING THROUGH EDUCATION”

The Citizen's Police Academy was established in January 1987.

The Citizen's Police Academy is a fourteen-week (that includes graduation) program designed to give the public a working knowledge of the Austin Police Department. Each session consists of fourteen consecutive Tuesday night classes at City of Austin facilities. The instruction is comprehensive and each week separate areas of the department are covered.

As of September 7, 2010, 1,850 citizens will have graduated from 72 classes. Classes are hosted two times a year at APD Headquarters.

- **Class 74 Spring of 2011;** Evening classes February 15 -May 24 with hours; 5:30p – 9:30 p.
- **Class 75 Fall of 2011** Evening classes September 13- December 13 with hours; 5:30p- 9:30p.

Cadet Training, Bomb Squad, Robbery, Homicide, Use of Force, Internal Affairs, Vehicular Homicide, S.W.A.T., Forensics, Recruiting and meeting the Chief are examples of some of the topics that are covered. Instruction consists of lectures, demonstrations, tours, and riding with a police officer on a ten-hour shift.

The slogan of the Citizen's Police Academy is "*Understanding through Education*". The goal is to educate the public about the Austin Police Department and to increase the rapport between citizens and police officers.

We hope the graduates of the Citizen's Police Academy become more aware and better informed about how the Police Department operates, and will encourage friends, coworkers and families to join the Austin Police Department in this rewarding program.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of conducting a Citizen's Police Academy?

To give the public information on how the Police Department works and its policies and procedures, through a series of classes involving instruction by police officers.

Where did the concept originate?

The program originated in Orlando, Florida in 1984. Orlando was the first city in the United States to start a Citizen's Police Academy.

What was the Austin Police Department's incentive for starting a Citizen's Police Academy?

We feel the more information the public has about the police department, less fears and misconceptions will exist.

When does the class meet?

There are three Citizen's Police Academy sessions per year. Students meet at Austin Police Department facilities. There will be a total of approximately thirty-nine (45) hours of instruction by police officers. All classes are free.

Who attends the Citizen's Police Academy?

Students range from 18 years of age and above. We have architects, bankers, homemakers, students, retirees, teachers, neighborhood groups and professionals attending the classes.

How do you apply?

You must be at least 18 years old and live or work in the Austin area. Complete the Citizen's Police Academy application and mail it to the address below. If you have any questions or need more information, call SPO Dennis Farris, at (512) 974-5941

When are classes?

The Citizens Police Academy is offered three times a year at APD Headquarters. You can choose from the following:

- **Class 74 Spring of 2011;** Evening classes February 15 -May 24 with hours; 5:30p – 9:30 p.
- **Class 75 Fall of 2011** Evening classes September 13- December 13 with hours; 5:30p- 9:30p.

Mailing Address:

SPO Dennis Farris
Citizen's Police Academy
P.O. 689001
Austin, Texas 78768-9001

Citizen's Police Academy

Application for Enrollment

Circle one:

- **Class 74 Spring of 2011;** Evening classes February 15 -May 24 with hours; 5:30p – 9:30 p.
- **Class 75 Fall of 2011** Evening classes September 13- December 13 with hours; 5:30p- 9:30p.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Email Address: _____ SS# _____

Drivers License #: _____ State: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Occupation: _____

Community Group Affiliation (if any): _____

Why do you wish to attend the Citizen's Police Academy? _____

How did you hear about the Citizen's Police Academy? _____

List two references:

1. _____ Phone Number: _____

2. _____ Phone Number: _____

I authorize the Austin Police Department to conduct a background investigation to obtain any information relating to my criminal history record for the purpose of making a determination of eligibility for the Citizen's Police Academy. I also understand I can only take this program one time and if I decide to volunteer, I can be removed from ALL activities if removed from one.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail completed form to:

SPO Dennis Farris
Citizen's Police Academy
P.O. Box 689001
Austin, Texas 78768-9001

Fax application to: (512) 974-4785

Questions?

(512)974-5941 or Email; dennis.farris@ci.austin.tx.us